

Halloween II

THE TERROR CONTINUES!

by Jeff de Feo

JACK O'LANTERN
or
Jack the Ripper?
All Hallow's Eve 1978.

From the screen we hear a haunting voice:

*Black Cats & Goblins
And Broomsticks & Ghosts,
Covens of Witches
That Bother Their Hosts.
You May Think They Scare Me—
You're Probably Right.
Black Cats & Goblins
On Halloween Night.
Trick or Treat!*

As the excited voices & shrill laughter of prankish children in spooky costumes echo thru the darkened streets & byways of the sleepy town of Haddonfield, a hideous slaughter is taking place.

The malicious murder of his own sister by 6-year-old Michael Myers.

For 15 years Michael is confined in the Warren County Mental Hospital. And then, at 21, on Halloween Night, he escapes . . . and . . .

Goes home.

prepare the screen for horrorween

That was the heart-stopping scenario for HALLOWEEN, the most successful independent production of all time. It was a low-budget, high-quality film which brought 3 relative unknowns to the forefront of their crafts: actress Jamie Lee Curtis (THE FOG, PROM NIGHT, TERROR TRAIN, ROAD GAMES) and co-producers John Carpenter & Debra Hill (THE FOG, ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK).

Once again, this terrific trio has teamed up (or conspired, truth to tell) and on October 31st will confront squirming audiences all over the country with HALLOWEEN II, perhaps the most anxiously awaited sequel since THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK.

As a sequel, HALLOWEEN II employs a unique concept, seldom utilized since THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN in 1935—it begins at the very moment the original concluded.

Co-producer/writer Debra Hill explained the unusual format while at a sound session in Holly-



Soon most of these people will be dead in Horror Hospital.

wood: "What we've done is overlap the ending of HALLOWEEN with the beginning of the sequel. HALLOWEEN II opens with Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) telling the children she's been babysitting to run down the street and get help. Then, if you remember, The Shape sits up in the background and attacks again, just as Dr. Loomis (Donald Pleasence) bursts onto the scene. He shoots The Shape six times, knocking him off the balcony and onto the ground below, only to later find that The Shape has disappeared. This is the point where the story line of HALLOWEEN II begins."

t'll curdle your girdle, Myrtle!

And a blood-curdling story it is!

Michael Myers, his face hidden by a ghoulis, expressionless white mask, has refused to die.

The horror in Haddonfield has only just begun!

Dr. Loomis (Donald Pleasence) & Sheriff Brackett (Charles Cyphers) continue their frantic search for the knife-wielding maniac, while the Sheriff continues to blame Dr. Loomis for letting the man go from the mental institution.

"This isn't a man, and I didn't let him go," replies Loomis, his voice trembling with uncontrollable fright.



A horrifying moment in the investigation conducted by Donald Pleasence while attempting to track down the killer maniac.



Run, run for your life! the murdering maniac is loose and in hot pursuit.



With bandaged hand & bandaged foot, Jamie Lee Curtis is in bad shape as Donald Pleasence suggests she take a pistol for self-protection.



Tense moment during midnight hours as 2 brave men attempt to find the fiend who is terrorizing Haddonfield.

While Loomis & Brackett are combing the dark streets, they spot a figure in a whitemask following closely behind a group of trick-or-treaters like a shadow of death. The 2 men race toward the children, warning them to get out of the way and run for safety.

Just as Loomis is about to pull the trigger, a County patrol car screeches around the corner and slams into the fleeing suspect, knocking him onto the hood of the car and hurtling him against a parked van.

The van explodes in spectacular fashion.

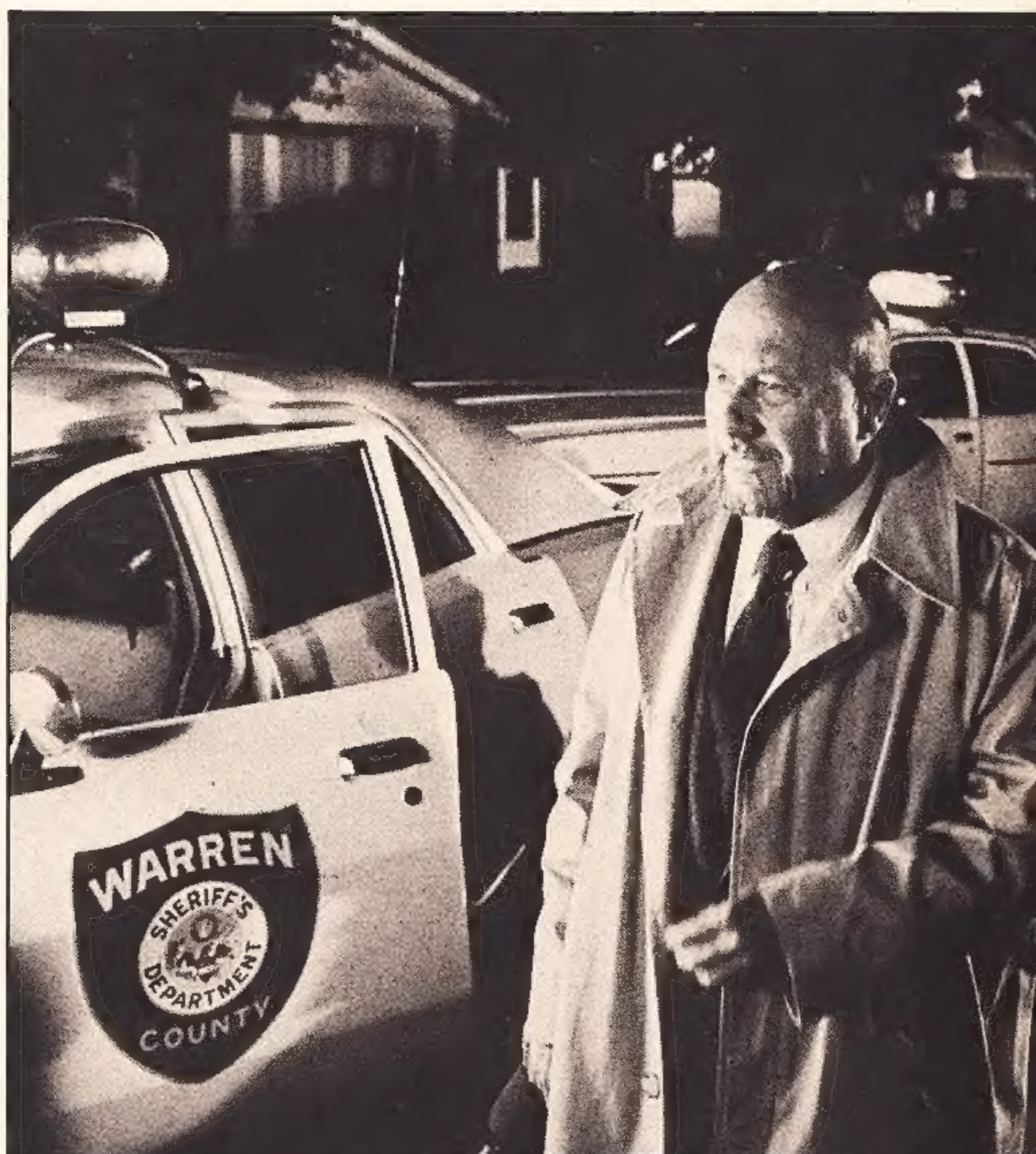
The special effects for HALLOWEEN II are greatly enhanced by the use of Dolby sound, a technique not used in the original. This improvement, combined with the extraordinary color quality achieved in the outdoor night scenes, makes HALLOWEEN II a technically superior film.

As the acrid odor of burning flesh fouls the air, Brackett is relieved to know that mad Michael Myers is dead at last.

But Loomis is not convinced.

Since 6 close-range gunshots were no deterrent, and he has not verified that the face under the sizzling rubber mask is Michael's, Loomis has his doubts about the demise of the Halloween Horror.

A dentist is called in to examine the charred remains and Loomis resumes his perilous hunt.



There is no truth to the rumor that Warren County is named after the Warren Publishing Co. just because so many ghastly things happen there!



A fiery crash that brings an end to the life of the Halloween Horror of Haddonfield...or does it?

trail of the demon

Further clues are discovered and the town is once again alerted to the deadly menace stalking the formerly peaceful streets.

The demonic trail is picked up at the local elementary school, where a crude drawing of a family is found with a knife protruding from the figure representing the sister. On the blackboard the word "Samhain" is etched in blood.

Loomis explains to puzzled officers: "It's a Celtic word meaning Festival of the Dead, an ancient ritual celebrated on Hallows Eve, October 31st."

survivor menaced

Meanwhile, Laurie Strode, the sole survivor of the crimson carnage in the original HALLOWEEN, has been rushed to Haddonfield Memorial Hospital for treatment of the dangerous wounds inflicted by her psychopathic tormentor.

Upon arrival, she pleads not to be given a soporific, fearing that if she's unconscious Michael will follow her there and this time succeed with his grisly intent. As a doctor graphically inserts the needle of the syringe into her arm, and she slowly drifts into darkness, Laurie's worst fears are soon realized.

Like a stealthy ghost, The Shape has slipped unnoticed into the confines of Haddonfield Memorial. No longer armed with his lethal butcher knife, he breaks into a supply room and selects hypodermic needles & surgical scalpels as his new weapons. There is no question that he has but one purpose this Halloween Night—*kill Laurie Strode!*

horror hospital--under-staffed!

In quest of his prey, Michael murders each member of the hospital staff until only Laurie is left, alone & terror-stricken. While she battles desperately for her life, narrowly dodging her attacker again & again, Dr. Loomis has made a startling discovery, which climaxes in the film's *trick* ending (it's really a *treat!*) What is it, you ask? You can find out on October 31st . . . Halloween Night . . . The night HE came home . . . and the night HALLOWEEN II opens nationwide!

flash!

In addition to HALLOWEEN II, horror film aficionados will be treated to an October 31st network telecast of the original HALLOWEEN, *which will include new scenes filmed by John Carpenter especially for terrorvision!*

END

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